

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, GR

SUBJECT: CARAMANLIS: HAILS EC COUNCIL DECISION ON GREEK ACCESSION

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1356

1. ON FEBRUARY 10 PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS RELEASED A STATEMENT EXPRESSING HIS GREAT SATISFACTION WITH THE EC COUNCIL OF MINISTER'S FORMAL AGREEMENT ON FEBRUARY 9 TO THE GREEK APPLICATION FOR ACCESSION TO THE COMMUNITY. PARA 2 CONTAINS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE CARAMANLIS STATEMENT. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS SUMMING UP GREEK REACTION IN GENERAL

2. IN HIS STATEMENT, CARAMANLIS SAID: QUOTE: I WISH TO EXPRESS MY STRONG SATISFACTION OVER THE APPROVAL OF THE
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REQUEST OF GREECE TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN

ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. I AM CONVINCED THAT THIS FEELING OF SATISFACTION IS ALSO SHARED BY THE OVERHELMING MAJORITY OF THE GREEK PEOPLE

THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED YESTERDAY BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IS INDEED OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE FOR OUR COUNTRY. THIS RESOLUTION MEANS THAT GREECE WILL BECOME A FULL AND EQUAL MEMBER OF THE GROUP OF DEVELOPED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES - A GROUP WHICH, ACCOMPLISHING UNIFICATION, WILL BECOME A GREAT POWER ABLE TO INFLUENCE THE COURSE OF MANKIND. OUR INTEGRATION ALSO MEANS A FULLER SAFEGUARDING OF OUR DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT. FINALLY, IT MEANS INCREASED POTENTIAL FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF OUR PEOPLE

ON THIS OCCASION, I CONSIDER IT MY DUTY TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE NINE MEMBER-STATES OF THE COMMUNITY FOR THE UNDERSTANDING WITH WHICH THEY TREATED THE GREEK REQUEST. I WISH ALSO TO STRESS THAT CERTAIN CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY BY THE EC COMMISSION ARE NOT DUE TO A NEGATIVE SPIRIT; THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY DUE TO THE CONCERN OF THE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE ALL ASPECTS OF A MATTER BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE REACHED

I HOLD THE CONVICTION THAT GREECE WILL JUSTIFY THE TRUST WITH WHICH SHE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY; AND WILL BECOME A POSITIVE AND CREATIVE ELEMENT WITHIN EUROPE, CONTRIBUTING, TO THE EXTENT OF HER POTENTIAL, TO THE REALIZATION OF THE EUROPEAN IDEAL

YESTERDAY, THE POLICY WE HAVE PURSUED FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION WAS JUSTIFIED. IT IS UP TO US TO MAKE THE BEST POSSIBLE USE OF THE GREAT PROSPECTS LYING AHEAD

THE ROAD LEADING TO OUR FULL INTEGRATION IN EUROPE WILL BE NEITHER SHORT NOR EASY, BECAUSE THE NEGOTIATIONS TO FOLLOW WILL HAVE TO SOLVE SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL PROBLEMS. WE MUST CARRY OUT THESE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PATIENCE, FIRMNESS AND DEDICATION TO OUR FINAL GOAL

HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO SUCCEED IN THIS OBJECTIVE, IT IS NECESSARY
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TO MAINTAIN UNDISTURBED OUR NATIONAL UNITY, OUR SOCIAL COHESION, AND ALSO THE FUNCTIONING OF OUR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. IT IS ONLY IN THIS MANNER THAT THE GREEK PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO DEVELOP ALL THEIR VIRTUES, AND LAY THE FOUNDATIONS OF A HAPPIER FUTURE IN SECURITY AND PEACE. END QUOTE.
KUBISCH

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